# Standardized Catch Rates of Greater Amberjack from the Gulf of Mexico Recreational Charterboat and Private Boat Fisheries (MRFSS) <br> 1986 to 2012 

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# Standardized Catch Rates of Greater Amberjack from the Gulf of Mexico Recreational Charterboat and Private Boat Fisheries (MRFSS) 1986 to 2012 

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## Introduction

The recreational fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is surveyed by the Marine Recreational Fishery Statistics Survey (MRFSS) conducted by NOAA Fisheries, the Texas Marine SportHarvest Monitoring Program conducted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and the Headboat Survey (HBS) conducted by NOAA Fisheries. MRFSS has monitored shore based, charterboat and private/rental boat angler fishing in the Gulf of Mexico since 1981. The purpose of this report is to outline the development of a standardized index of abundance for Gulf of Mexico greater amberjack using MRFSS data.

## Methods

## Marine Recreational Fishery Statistics Survey

MRFSS collects information on participation, effort, and species-specific catch. Data are collected to provide catch and effort estimates in two-month periods ("waves") for each recreational fishing mode (shore fishing, private/rental boat, charterboat, or headboat/charterboat combined) and for each area of fishing (inshore, state Territorial Seas, U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone), in each Gulf of Mexico state (except Texas). Total catch information is collected by MRFSS on fish landed whole and observed by interviewers ("Type A"), fish reported as killed by the fishers ("Type B1") and fish reported as released alive by the fishers ("Type B2").

MRFSS data were used to characterize abundance trends of greater amberjack in the Gulf of Mexico. Information on effort included hours fished and number of anglers as reported to the interviewer. Catch that was not observed by the interviewer (B1 and B2) was adjusted upwards by the ratio of non-interviewed to interviewed anglers in each group of anglers. The catch per unit effort was calculated on an individual group basis and was equal to the number of fish caught divided by the effort, where effort was the product of the number of anglers and the total hours fished.

## Data preparation and filtering

The following data preparation and filtering techniques were applied to the MRFSS dataset:

1. Data from TX were excluded (not available in dataset after 1985).
2. HB mode was excluded (not available in dataset after 1985).
3. Data prior to 1986 were excluded.
4. Interviews that reported shore-based fishing or fishing in inshore waters were excluded.
5. The index was limited to interviews that reported using hook and line gear.
6. Data from Monroe County were excluded.
7. Observations were classified into five regions of the Gulf of Mexico.
8. Closed seasons for Greater Amberjack were used to define a factor called "GAJ_season".
9. Data from 2010 were excluded.
10. The Stephens and MacCall (2004) approach was not used to restrict the dataset to those interviews that targeted greater amberjack.
11. MRFSS data were weighted to account for changes in sampling effort that were implemented in 2000.

The MRFSS dataset was looked at across different strata to assess the sample size of total interviews and successful interviews (interviews that reported having caught greater amberjack) within each of the strata. Data from Texas, present in the years 1981 through 1985, were removed from the MRFSS data because the State of Texas conducts its own survey. In addition, data from the headboat mode in MRFSS, also present in the years 1981 through 1985, were removed because this information is covered by the Headboat Survey program conducted by NOAA Fisheries. Interviews that reported the shore mode and/or the inshore area were removed from the MRFSS data, because less than 0.1 percent of such interviews encountered greater amberjack. Data were limited to interviews that reported using hook and line since these represented over $98 \%$ of all private and charter interviews in the Gulf of Mexico. Data prior to 1986 were excluded due to extremely low number of interviews resulting in missing data for multiple strata.

The dataset was further partitioned according to decisions that were made during the SEDAR 33 data workshop plenary sessions. During the data workshop the majority of charterboat and private boat fishing occurring in the Dry Tortugas and Florida Keys (Monroe County, Florida) were determined to occur in South Atlantic jurisdiction waters. As such, data from Monroe County were excluded. Additionally, a single MRFSS record that was identified as erroneous was corrected. The record was associated with a private mode interview in Alabama on March 21, 2001. The number of fish released alive associated with this interview was adjusted from a total of 400 B 2 fish to a total of 100 B 2 fish.

Following the SEDAR9 benchmark and update assessments, observations were classified into five regions of the Gulf of Mexico using the county and state of intercept. The five regions were: 1) SW FL (Collier - Pinellas), 2) NW FL (Pasco - Franklin), 3) FL Panhandle (Gulf Escambia) and AL, and 4) LA and MS.

The management of greater amberjack is done by size limits, bag limits, and fishing seasons. Since MRFSS routinely collects information on releases (i.e., discards, coded as B2s in the survey), possible effects from bag limits and/or minimum size change regulations were not investigated. Although the accuracy of discarded values cannot be verified, discard data were retained since over $50 \%$ of greater amberjack landings were reported as either B1 or B2 catch. Because discard data were available during fishing closed season, observations during the closed seasons were retained.

In 2009, the recreational fishery for greater amberjack in the Gulf of Mexico exceeded its quota for the first time and was closed from Oct. $25^{\text {th }}$ to Dec. $31^{\text {st }}$. After reopening at the start of the 2010 fishing year, MRFSS data for the private and charterboat fisheries had unusually high catch rates in January, as compared to the catch rates in January from the previous 5 years. Later in 2010, there were significant area closures from May to November that were related to the Deepwater Horizon/BP Oil Spill (SERO 2013). Catch rates reported immediately after the 2009 quota closure and those reported during and after the 2010 area closures may reflect temporary shifts in targeting and catchability. Since changes in fisher behavior in response to regulations are not accounted for in the standardization procedure, data from 2010 were excluded from the analysis.

The Stephens and MacCall approach (2004) was explored to try and identify greater amberjack directed effort. This approach uses the species composition of each trip in a logistic regression of species presence/absence to infer if effort on that trip occurred in similar habitat to greater amberjack habitat. This approach did not work well for greater amberjack (see results section for further discussion about this), and as a result, an index was developed using a delta lognormal model on all interviews.

MRFSS data were weighted to account for changes in sampling effort that were implemented in 2000. Starting in 2000, data from FL were down-weighted by $1 / 6$ and data from AL, MS and LA were down-weighted by $1 / 2$.

## Standardization

Delta-lognormal modeling methods were used to estimate a standardized abundance index for greater amberjack (Lo et al. 1992). The main advantage of using this method is allowance for the probability of zero catch (Ortiz et al. 2000). The delta-lognormal modeling approach combines separate generalized linear model (GLM) analyses of the proportion of successful trips (trips that landed greater amberjack) and of the catch rates on successful trips to construct a single standardized CPUE index (Lo et al. 1992, Hinton and Maunder 2003, Maunder and Punt 2004).

For each GLM procedure of proportion positive interviews, a type-3 model was fit, a binomial error distribution was assumed, and the logit link was selected. The response variable was the proportion of successful interviews across strata. During the analysis of catch rates on successful interviews, a type-3 model assuming lognormal error distribution was examined. The linking function selected was "normal", and the response variable was calculated as the natural log of CPUE.

A stepwise approach was used to quantify the relative importance of the explanatory factors. First a weighted GLM model was fit to the null model (only the intercept) and the AIC, deviance and degrees of freedom were calculated. Next, a suite of models was tested where each potential explanatory factor was added to the null model. Again, the AIC, deviance, and degrees of freedom were calculated. The model with the factor that had the lowest AIC became the new base model and the process was repeated adding factors individually until either the AIC was no longer further reduced or the all the factors were added to the model. In addition to screening using AIC, factors were also screened and not added to the model if the reduction in deviance per degree of freedom was less than one percent. This screening was implemented in order to fit a more parsimonious model, given the fact that factors which reduce the deviance by so little exert little influence on the index trend. If at the end of this process YEAR was not identified as a significant explanatory variable it was still included as a main effect in the model.

Two-way interactions among significant main effects were examined. YEAR*FACTOR interaction terms were included in the model as random effects. The final weighted delta lognormal model was fit using a SAS macro, GLIMMIX (Russ Wolfinger, SAS Institute). To facilitate visual comparison, a relative standardized index and relative nominal CPUE series were calculated by dividing each value in the series by the mean value of the entire time-series.

The following factors were examined as possible influences on the proportion of positive interviews, and on the catch rates of anglers that observed greater amberjack.

|  | LEVELS | DESCRIPTION |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| FACTOR | 26 | 1981-2009 and 2011-2012 |
| MODE | 2 | Private, Charter |
| REGION | 4 | Southwest FL (Collier - Pinellas), <br> Northwest FL (Pasco - Franklin), <br>  <br>  <br> FL Panhandle (Gulf - Escambia) and AL, <br> MS and LA |
| AREA | 2 | State, EEZ |
| MONTH | 6 | Dec-Jan, Feb-Mar, Apr-May, Jun-Jul, Aug-Sep, Oct-Nov |
| GAJ SEASON | 2 | Open, Closed (Closures were Oct. 25 - Dec. 31 in 2009 <br> and Jun. 1 - Jul. 31 in 2011 and 2012) |
| HOURS FISHED <br> (Binomial component only) | 9 | Bins for number of hours fished: <br> $1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9+$ |

## Notes:

(1) Across all interviews, fishing mode was confounded with fishing region. In the NW_FL region, $96.7 \%$ of all interviews reported having fished from private boats. Therefore, both factors were tested, but after one was entered in the model for the proportion of positive interviews, the other was excluded from further analysis.
(2) Across positive interviews, fishing area was confounded with fishing region. In the MS and LA region, $97.8 \%$ of positive interviews reported fishing in the EEZ. Therefore, both
factors were tested, but after one was entered in the model for CPUE, the other was excluded from further analysis.
(3) Since hours fished is a component of angler hours, and thereby of CPUE, this factor was only explored in the model for the proportion of positive interviews
(4) Months were combined to avoid missing data across months in individual years. A length of two months was selected to match up with the length and timing of the 2011 and 2012 closed seasons for greater amberjack.

## Results

Efforts were made to apply the Stephens and MacCall approach to the dataset. However, these efforts were met with limited success since the results were not informative and because the approach ended up eliminating most of the interviews. Due to the inability to use this approach, a model for the proportion of successful interviews was constructed using of all interviews, and a model for the catch rates was constructed using all positive interviews.

Various factors and first level interactions were tested for significance using the stepwise approach and accordingly included or excluded from the model. The following models resulted from the standardization procedures where Success is a binomial indicating whether or not a group of anglers caught the species of interest, $\alpha$ represents the parameter estimate of each factor, $\mu$ represents the mean, and $\varepsilon$ represents the error term.

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Success }=\mu+(\text { Year }) \alpha_{1}+(\text { Region }) \alpha_{2}+(\text { Area }) \alpha_{3}+(\text { HRS }) \alpha_{4}+(\text { Year } * H R S) \alpha_{5}+\varepsilon \\
\ln (\text { CPUE })=\mu+(\text { Year }) \alpha_{1}+(\text { Mode }) \alpha_{2}+(\text { Region }) \alpha_{3}+(\text { Mode } * \text { Region }) \alpha_{4}+\varepsilon
\end{gathered}
$$

Table 1 summarizes the standardized index and corresponding coefficients of variation, upper confidence limits, lower confidence limits, and nominal CPUE. Final deviance tables are included in Table 2.

Results for the greater amberjack MRFSS index standardization show very variable values from the start of the series through 1991, followed by a decline until 1996. After a period of relative stability between 1996 and 1999 the index increases until 2002 and then decreases again until 2006. After 2006 the index moderately increases through 2011 and ends with a decrease in the most recent year (Figure 1).

Compared to MRFSS indices developed for the SEDAR 9 benchmark and update assessments, the index developed here for SEDAR 33 shows a similar lack of trend during the start of the time series (Figure 2). After 1990, the SEDAR 33 MRFSS index exhibits higher peaks and is more variable than the MRFSS indices from previous assessments. After 1999 the general directional trends are comparable between the SEDAR 33 index and the index developed for the SEDAR 9 update assessment.

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## Tables

Table 1: Gulf of Mexico greater amberjack standardized index values, coefficients of variation, upper confidence limits, lower confidence limits, and nominal CPUE values from the MRFSS charterboat and private boat fisheries.

| Year | Standardized Index | CV | Lower 95\% CI | Upper 95\% CI | Nominal CPUE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1986 | 2.002 | 0.131 | 1.543 | 2.597 | 2.530 |
| 1987 | 1.132 | 0.136 | 0.864 | 1.485 | 1.563 |
| 1988 | 0.600 | 0.171 | 0.427 | 0.844 | 0.991 |
| 1989 | 1.722 | 0.165 | 1.240 | 2.391 | 1.498 |
| 1990 | 0.168 | 0.300 | 0.094 | 0.303 | 0.277 |
| 1991 | 1.553 | 0.169 | 1.110 | 2.171 | 2.051 |
| 1992 | 1.628 | 0.123 | 1.275 | 2.080 | 1.657 |
| 1993 | 0.759 | 0.168 | 0.544 | 1.059 | 1.021 |
| 1994 | 0.632 | 0.186 | 0.437 | 0.914 | 0.521 |
| 1995 | 0.361 | 0.261 | 0.216 | 0.603 | 0.364 |
| 1996 | 0.279 | 0.215 | 0.183 | 0.427 | 0.245 |
| 1997 | 0.262 | 0.215 | 0.171 | 0.401 | 0.298 |
| 1998 | 0.296 | 0.173 | 0.210 | 0.418 | 0.325 |
| 1999 | 0.432 | 0.129 | 0.335 | 0.559 | 0.400 |
| 2000 | 0.912 | 0.130 | 0.703 | 1.182 | 0.765 |
| 2001 | 1.231 | 0.121 | 0.967 | 1.566 | 1.201 |
| 2002 | 1.946 | 0.105 | 1.579 | 2.399 | 1.638 |
| 2003 | 1.793 | 0.107 | 1.449 | 2.218 | 1.615 |
| 2004 | 0.911 | 0.115 | 0.725 | 1.145 | 0.837 |
| 2005 | 0.778 | 0.135 | 0.594 | 1.018 | 0.754 |
| 2006 | 0.720 | 0.142 | 0.543 | 0.956 | 0.660 |
| 2007 | 0.847 | 0.145 | 0.635 | 1.129 | 0.697 |
| 2008 | 1.102 | 0.138 | 0.837 | 1.450 | 0.737 |
| 2009 | 1.019 | 0.143 | 0.767 | 1.356 | 0.732 |
| 2010 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2011 | 1.547 | 0.130 | 1.194 | 2.003 | 1.281 |
| 2012 | 1.366 | 0.125 | 1.065 | 1.753 | 1.341 |

Table 2: Final deviance tables for the Gulf of Mexico greater amberjack regressions from the MRFSS charterboat and private fisheries. The table shows the order of the factors as they were added sequentially to each model. Fit diagnostics listed for each factor were the diagnostics from a model that included that factor and all of the factors listed above it in the tables below.

| Binomial |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Factor | Df | Deviance | Residual Df | Residual Deviance | AIC | \% Deviance <br> Reduced | $\log$ likelihood | Likelihood Ratio Test |
| Null | 1 | 25300.90 | 135587 | 25300.90 | 25301.00 | - | -12650.50 | - |
| Region | 3 | 21434.30 | 135584 | 3866.60 | 21434.40 | 15.28 | -10717.20 | 3866.60 |
| Area | 1 | 19160.30 | 135583 | 2274.00 | 19160.40 | 10.61 | -9580.20 | 2274.00 |
| Year | 25 | 18654.80 | 135558 | 505.50 | 18654.80 | 2.64 | -9327.40 | 505.60 |
| HRS | 8 | 18305.20 | 135550 | 349.60 | 18305.20 | 1.87 | -9152.60 | 349.60 |
| Year*HRS | 200 | 17927.20 | 135350 | 378.00 | 17927.20 | 2.06 | -8963.60 | 378.00 |
| Lognormal |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Factor | Df | Deviance | Residual Df | Residual <br> Deviance | AIC | \% Deviance Reduced | $\log$ <br> likelihood | Likelihood Ratio Test |
| Null | 1 | 7797.10 | 135587 | 7797.10 | -2439.80 |  | 1219.90 |  |
| Mode | 1 | 7579.70 | 135586 | 217.40 | -6274.20 | 2.79 | 3137.10 | 3834.40 |
| Region | 3 | 7500.00 | 135583 | 79.70 | -7707.40 | 1.05 | 3853.70 | 1433.20 |
| Year | 25 | 7488.00 | 135558 | 12.00 | -7924.80 | 0.16 | 3962.40 | 217.40 |
| Mode*Region | 3 | 7391.00 | 135555 | 97.00 | -9691.80 | 1.30 | 4845.90 | 1767.00 |

Figures


Figure 1. Nominal CPUE, standardized index, and the $95 \%$ confidence intervals for Gulf of Mexico greater amberjack from MRFSS charterboat and private boat fisheries. The standardized index and nominal CPUE values were normalized by their respective means overt the time series.


Figure 2. Standardized MRFSS indices for Gulf of Mexico greater amberjack from the current assessment (SEDAR 33) and from previous assessments (SEDAR 9 and the SEDAR 9 update). Indices were normalized by their respective means during the overlapping period.

Appendix A: Diagnostic plots for the MRFSS charterboat and private boat index of Gulf of Mexico greater amberjack

## Greater Amberjack Observed CPUE



Figure 3. Frequency distribution of catch rates on positive interviews. The red line is the expected normal distribution.


Figure 4. Q-Q plot of CPUE.


Figure 5a. Residuals from the binomial model on proportion positive interviews, by year (left panel) and by region (right panel).


Figure 5b. Residuals from the binomial model on proportion positive interviews, by area (left panel) and by hours fished (right panel).

## Appendix B: Number of total interviews and interviews that reported having caught greater amberjack across strata

Table 3. The total number of interviews, number of positive interviews, and percentage of positive interviews by year from the charterboat and private boat fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Data highlighted in gray were not included in the analyses.

| Year | Total Interviews | Positive Interviews | Percent of Positive Interviews |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1981 | 1086 | 18 | 1.66 |
| 1982 | 2237 | 35 | 1.56 |
| 1983 | 1250 | 35 | 2.80 |
| 1984 | 1567 | 20 | 1.28 |
| 1985 | 1704 | 13 | 0.76 |
| 1986 | 5791 | 207 | 3.57 |
| 1987 | 6044 | 190 | 3.14 |
| 1988 | 4976 | 109 | 2.19 |
| 1989 | 3229 | 123 | 3.81 |
| 1990 | 2827 | 32 | 1.13 |
| 1991 | 2892 | 118 | 4.08 |
| 1992 | 5398 | 243 | 4.50 |
| 1993 | 3912 | 117 | 2.99 |
| 1994 | 4577 | 91 | 1.99 |
| 1995 | 4126 | 43 | 1.04 |
| 1996 | 4955 | 65 | 1.31 |
| 1997 | 5580 | 65 | 1.16 |
| 1998 | 6063 | 106 | 1.75 |
| 1999 | 8980 | 216 | 2.41 |
| 2000 | 7921 | 321 | 4.05 |
| 2001 | 7863 | 309 | 3.93 |
| 2002 | 8415 | 507 | 6.02 |
| 2003 | 7732 | 484 | 6.26 |
| 2004 | 8749 | 414 | 4.73 |
| 2005 | 7434 | 260 | 3.50 |
| 2006 | 7794 | 248 | 3.18 |
| 2007 | 7050 | 227 | 3.22 |
| 2008 | 6612 | 245 | 3.71 |
| 2009 | 5951 | 225 | 3.78 |
| 2010 | 5149 | 295 | 5.73 |
| 2011 | 5935 | 348 | 5.58 |
| 2012 | 5424 |  | 6.42 |
|  |  |  |  |

Table 4. Total interviews, number of positive interviews, and percentage of positive interviews by year and mode from the charterboat and private boat fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Data highlighted in gray were not included in the analyses.

|  | Interviews <br> by Mode |  | Positive Interviews <br> by Mode |  | Percent of Positive Interviews <br> by Mode |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Charterboat | Private | Charterboat | Private | Charterboat | Private |
| 1981 | 171 | 915 | 9 | 9 | 5.26 | 0.98 |
| 1982 | 158 | 2079 | 16 | 19 | 10.13 | 0.91 |
| 1983 | 290 | 960 | 31 | 4 | 10.69 | 0.42 |
| 1984 | 318 | 1249 | 19 | 1 | 5.97 | 0.08 |
| 1985 | 267 | 1437 | 9 | 4 | 3.37 | 0.28 |
| 1986 | 1119 | 4672 | 188 | 19 | 16.80 | 0.41 |
| 1987 | 843 | 5201 | 125 | 65 | 14.83 | 1.25 |
| 1988 | 736 | 4240 | 86 | 23 | 11.68 | 0.54 |
| 1989 | 523 | 2706 | 84 | 39 | 16.06 | 1.44 |
| 1990 | 465 | 2362 | 27 | 5 | 5.81 | 0.21 |
| 1991 | 503 | 2389 | 104 | 14 | 20.68 | 0.59 |
| 1992 | 745 | 4653 | 192 | 51 | 25.77 | 1.10 |
| 1993 | 497 | 3415 | 85 | 32 | 17.10 | 0.94 |
| 1994 | 560 | 4017 | 71 | 20 | 12.68 | 0.50 |
| 1995 | 348 | 3778 | 22 | 21 | 6.32 | 0.56 |
| 1996 | 436 | 4519 | 39 | 26 | 8.94 | 0.58 |
| 1997 | 816 | 4764 | 47 | 18 | 5.76 | 0.38 |
| 1998 | 1234 | 4829 | 89 | 17 | 7.21 | 0.35 |
| 1999 | 1957 | 7023 | 187 | 29 | 9.56 | 0.41 |
| 2000 | 2377 | 5544 | 284 | 37 | 11.95 | 0.67 |
| 2001 | 1612 | 6251 | 194 | 115 | 12.03 | 1.84 |
| 2002 | 1729 | 6686 | 407 | 100 | 23.54 | 1.50 |
| 2003 | 2082 | 5650 | 393 | 91 | 18.88 | 1.61 |
| 2004 | 2489 | 6260 | 343 | 71 | 13.78 | 1.13 |
| 2005 | 1894 | 5540 | 197 | 63 | 10.40 | 1.14 |
| 2006 | 1518 | 6276 | 213 | 35 | 14.03 | 0.56 |
| 2007 | 1529 | 5521 | 182 | 45 | 11.90 | 0.82 |
| 2008 | 1128 | 5484 | 182 | 63 | 16.13 | 1.15 |
| 2009 | 1171 | 4780 | 157 | 68 | 13.41 | 1.42 |
| 2010 | 1155 | 3994 | 210 | 85 | 18.18 | 2.13 |
| 2011 | 1480 | 4455 | 271 | 60 | 18.31 | 1.35 |
| 2012 | 1633 | 3791 | 273 | 75 | 16.72 | 1.98 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 5a. Total interviews by year and region from the charterboat and private boat fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Data highlighted in gray were not included in the analyses.

| Year | Interviews by Region |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | FL_PH_AL | LA_MS | NW_FL | SW_FL |
| 1981 | 269 | 293 | 118 | 406 |
| 1982 | 684 | 629 | 372 | 552 |
| 1983 | 291 | 447 | 219 | 293 |
| 1984 | 402 | 628 | 162 | 375 |
| 1985 | 504 | 467 | 240 | 493 |
| 1986 | 1515 | 1932 | 782 | 1562 |
| 1987 | 2237 | 1120 | 812 | 1875 |
| 1988 | 1280 | 941 | 1355 | 1400 |
| 1989 | 806 | 708 | 829 | 886 |
| 1990 | 563 | 839 | 692 | 733 |
| 1991 | 771 | 917 | 735 | 469 |
| 1992 | 980 | 1381 | 1570 | 1467 |
| 1993 | 838 | 688 | 1292 | 1094 |
| 1994 | 903 | 524 | 2103 | 1047 |
| 1995 | 574 | 470 | 2106 | 976 |
| 1996 | 1019 | 504 | 2036 | 1396 |
| 1997 | 1123 | 968 | 2047 | 1442 |
| 1998 | 1262 | 660 | 2225 | 1916 |
| 1999 | 2194 | 963 | 3323 | 2500 |
| 2000 | 2492 | 748 | 3095 | 1586 |
| 2001 | 2109 | 512 | 3322 | 1920 |
| 2002 | 1941 | 619 | 3802 | 2053 |
| 2003 | 2045 | 445 | 3015 | 2227 |
| 2004 | 2469 | 532 | 3127 | 2621 |
| 2005 | 2075 | 383 | 2623 | 2353 |
| 2006 | 2043 | 577 | 2739 | 2435 |
| 2007 | 2128 | 462 | 3058 | 1402 |
| 2008 | 1410 | 363 | 3062 | 1777 |
| 2009 | 1416 | 335 | 2834 | 1366 |
| 2010 | 1415 | 146 | 2249 | 1339 |
| 2011 | 1798 | 215 | 2562 | 1360 |
| 2012 | 1973 | 294 | 1993 | 1164 |

Table 5 b . Number of positive interviews by year and region from the charterboat and private boat fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Data highlighted in gray were not included in the analyses.

| Year | Positive Interviews <br> by Region |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | FL_PH_AL | LA_MS | NW_FL | SW_FL |
| 1981 | 12 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| 1982 | 20 | 8 | 3 | 4 |
| 1983 | 9 | 22 | 1 | 3 |
| 1984 | 1 | 18 | 0 | 1 |
| 1985 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| 1986 | 148 | 24 | 11 | 24 |
| 1987 | 154 | 16 | 7 | 13 |
| 1988 | 94 | 3 | 2 | 10 |
| 1989 | 105 | 6 | 2 | 10 |
| 1990 | 28 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 1991 | 79 | 30 | 6 | 3 |
| 1992 | 169 | 36 | 5 | 33 |
| 1993 | 102 | 7 | 2 | 6 |
| 1994 | 71 | 13 | 4 | 3 |
| 1995 | 27 | 6 | 6 | 4 |
| 1996 | 53 | 9 | 1 | 2 |
| 1997 | 40 | 11 | 1 | 13 |
| 1998 | 85 | 4 | 5 | 12 |
| 1999 | 197 | 4 | 1 | 14 |
| 2000 | 284 | 17 | 1 | 19 |
| 2001 | 248 | 25 | 12 | 24 |
| 2002 | 403 | 55 | 11 | 38 |
| 2003 | 387 | 32 | 31 | 34 |
| 2004 | 324 | 33 | 24 | 33 |
| 2005 | 194 | 22 | 23 | 21 |
| 2006 | 188 | 45 | 2 | 13 |
| 2007 | 166 | 22 | 6 | 33 |
| 2008 | 199 | 23 | 8 | 15 |
| 2009 | 174 | 14 | 13 | 24 |
| 2010 | 237 | 7 | 13 | 38 |
| 2011 | 292 | 10 | 7 | 22 |
| 2012 | 313 | 24 | 4 | 7 |

Table 5 c . The percentage of positive interviews by year and region from the charterboat and private boat fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Data highlighted in gray were not included in the analyses.

|  | Percent of Positive Interviews <br> by Region |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | FL_PH_AL | LA_MS | NW_FL | SW_FL |
| 1981 | 4.46 | 1.37 | 1.69 | 0.00 |
| 1982 | 2.92 | 1.27 | 0.81 | 0.72 |
| 1983 | 3.09 | 4.92 | 0.46 | 1.02 |
| 1984 | 0.25 | 2.87 | 0.00 | 0.27 |
| 1985 | 1.19 | 0.43 | 0.00 | 1.01 |
| 1986 | 9.77 | 1.24 | 1.41 | 1.54 |
| 1987 | 6.88 | 1.43 | 0.86 | 0.69 |
| 1988 | 7.34 | 0.32 | 0.15 | 0.71 |
| 1989 | 13.03 | 0.85 | 0.24 | 1.13 |
| 1990 | 4.97 | 0.24 | 0.14 | 0.14 |
| 1991 | 10.25 | 3.27 | 0.82 | 0.64 |
| 1992 | 17.24 | 2.61 | 0.32 | 2.25 |
| 1993 | 12.17 | 1.02 | 0.15 | 0.55 |
| 1994 | 7.86 | 2.48 | 0.19 | 0.29 |
| 1995 | 4.70 | 1.28 | 0.28 | 0.41 |
| 1996 | 5.20 | 1.79 | 0.05 | 0.14 |
| 1997 | 3.56 | 1.14 | 0.05 | 0.90 |
| 1998 | 6.74 | 0.61 | 0.22 | 0.63 |
| 1999 | 8.98 | 0.42 | 0.03 | 0.56 |
| 2000 | 11.40 | 2.27 | 0.03 | 1.20 |
| 2001 | 11.76 | 4.88 | 0.36 | 1.25 |
| 2002 | 20.76 | 8.89 | 0.29 | 1.85 |
| 2003 | 18.92 | 7.19 | 1.03 | 1.53 |
| 2004 | 13.12 | 6.20 | 0.77 | 1.26 |
| 2005 | 9.35 | 5.74 | 0.88 | 0.89 |
| 2006 | 9.20 | 7.80 | 0.07 | 0.53 |
| 2007 | 7.80 | 4.76 | 0.20 | 2.35 |
| 2008 | 14.11 | 4.18 | 0.26 | 0.84 |
| 2009 | 12.29 | 4.65 | 0.46 | 1.76 |
| 2010 | 16.75 | 8.16 | 0.58 | 2.84 |
| 2011 | 16.24 |  | 0.27 | 1.62 |
| 2012 | 15.86 |  | 0.20 | 0.60 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4.79 |  |  |

Table 6. The percentage of positive interviews by year and area from the charterboat and private boat fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Data highlighted in gray were not included in the analyses.

|  | Interviews <br> by Area |  | Positive Interviews <br> by Area |  | Percent of Positive Interviews |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| bey Area |  |  |  |  |  |  |$|$

Table 7a. The number of interviews by year and hours fished from the charterboat and private boat fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Data highlighted in gray were not included in the analyses.

|  | Interviews <br> by HRS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | $9+$ |
| 1981 | 47 | 60 | 141 | 185 | 161 | 176 | 75 | 98 | 143 |
| 1982 | 48 | 146 | 261 | 488 | 406 | 333 | 178 | 149 | 228 |
| 1983 | 43 | 98 | 180 | 240 | 224 | 183 | 104 | 108 | 70 |
| 1984 | 60 | 173 | 267 | 290 | 298 | 224 | 127 | 91 | 37 |
| 1985 | 113 | 208 | 283 | 337 | 244 | 203 | 87 | 121 | 108 |
| 1986 | 286 | 730 | 969 | 1393 | 928 | 762 | 312 | 227 | 184 |
| 1987 | 342 | 786 | 1088 | 1286 | 1053 | 717 | 316 | 298 | 158 |
| 1988 | 311 | 562 | 942 | 1156 | 775 | 604 | 231 | 247 | 148 |
| 1989 | 149 | 400 | 609 | 707 | 584 | 384 | 148 | 176 | 72 |
| 1990 | 114 | 290 | 435 | 598 | 530 | 353 | 181 | 236 | 90 |
| 1991 | 163 | 276 | 517 | 663 | 551 | 368 | 144 | 136 | 74 |
| 1992 | 214 | 607 | 861 | 1056 | 1036 | 716 | 349 | 358 | 201 |
| 1993 | 218 | 413 | 596 | 803 | 622 | 636 | 241 | 236 | 147 |
| 1994 | 307 | 490 | 684 | 1020 | 851 | 595 | 242 | 275 | 113 |
| 1995 | 203 | 427 | 633 | 944 | 728 | 579 | 260 | 221 | 131 |
| 1996 | 280 | 523 | 820 | 1046 | 913 | 718 | 281 | 252 | 122 |
| 1997 | 232 | 600 | 1017 | 1248 | 1046 | 746 | 315 | 257 | 119 |
| 1998 | 205 | 611 | 1022 | 1378 | 1085 | 949 | 380 | 253 | 180 |
| 1999 | 437 | 926 | 1578 | 2146 | 1519 | 1279 | 513 | 354 | 228 |
| 2000 | 391 | 723 | 1408 | 1929 | 1282 | 1208 | 480 | 359 | 141 |
| 2001 | 300 | 721 | 1393 | 1853 | 1427 | 1158 | 502 | 340 | 169 |
| 2002 | 402 | 768 | 1536 | 2105 | 1452 | 1131 | 555 | 271 | 195 |
| 2003 | 389 | 794 | 1402 | 1880 | 1275 | 1050 | 438 | 350 | 154 |
| 2004 | 370 | 911 | 1599 | 2038 | 1548 | 1205 | 479 | 382 | 217 |
| 2005 | 412 | 758 | 1394 | 1860 | 1254 | 924 | 422 | 251 | 159 |
| 2006 | 374 | 778 | 1332 | 1967 | 1373 | 1060 | 399 | 320 | 191 |
| 2007 | 356 | 774 | 1300 | 1740 | 1235 | 933 | 318 | 256 | 138 |
| 2008 | 301 | 679 | 1138 | 1716 | 1180 | 950 | 298 | 235 | 115 |
| 2009 | 264 | 582 | 1153 | 1640 | 978 | 756 | 300 | 217 | 61 |
| 2010 | 199 | 489 | 1038 | 1342 | 848 | 695 | 296 | 174 | 68 |
| 2011 | 220 | 587 | 1151 | 1545 | 1071 | 779 | 299 | 200 | 83 |
| 2012 | 278 | 597 | 1123 | 1473 | 868 | 703 | 202 | 107 | 73 |

Table 7 b . The number of positive interviews by year and hours fished from the charterboat and private boat fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Data highlighted in gray were not included in the analyses.

| Year | Positive Interviews by HRS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9+ |
| 1981 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 10 |
| 1982 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 15 |
| 1983 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 5 |
| 1984 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| 1985 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| 1986 | 5 | 17 | 28 | 48 | 31 | 43 | 6 | 14 | 15 |
| 1987 | 3 | 14 | 25 | 24 | 32 | 40 | 9 | 28 | 15 |
| 1988 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 27 | 21 | 17 | 4 | 15 | 11 |
| 1989 | 2 | 6 | 15 | 38 | 28 | 16 | 9 | 3 | 6 |
| 1990 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| 1991 | 2 | 5 | 13 | 29 | 31 | 18 | 8 | 5 | 7 |
| 1992 | 6 | 23 | 41 | 48 | 45 | 50 | 11 | 13 | 6 |
| 1993 | 3 | 3 | 14 | 30 | 11 | 23 | 9 | 12 | 12 |
| 1994 | 1 | 10 | 13 | 24 | 12 | 18 | 4 | 6 | 3 |
| 1995 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 11 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| 1996 | 1 | 4 | 12 | 15 | 14 | 5 | 2 | 11 | 1 |
| 1997 | 2 | 5 | 11 | 7 | 20 | 13 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 1998 | 3 | 5 | 16 | 29 | 26 | 10 | 5 | 8 | 4 |
| 1999 | 3 | 12 | 25 | 58 | 43 | 46 | 13 | 7 | 9 |
| 2000 | 11 | 16 | 37 | 93 | 55 | 55 | 17 | 19 | 18 |
| 2001 | 4 | 28 | 46 | 74 | 59 | 52 | 13 | 13 | 20 |
| 2002 | 11 | 36 | 90 | 150 | 99 | 65 | 23 | 18 | 15 |
| 2003 | 15 | 36 | 62 | 142 | 86 | 89 | 19 | 19 | 16 |
| 2004 | 1 | 25 | 61 | 121 | 86 | 64 | 22 | 24 | 10 |
| 2005 | 7 | 13 | 32 | 79 | 54 | 44 | 11 | 15 | 5 |
| 2006 | 4 | 14 | 32 | 60 | 55 | 39 | 15 | 15 | 14 |
| 2007 | 4 | 28 | 37 | 54 | 38 | 32 | 6 | 20 | 8 |
| 2008 | 4 | 21 | 40 | 51 | 53 | 29 | 16 | 14 | 17 |
| 2009 | 4 | 18 | 40 | 59 | 29 | 34 | 8 | 24 | 9 |
| 2010 | 8 | 24 | 62 | 69 | 38 | 43 | 19 | 17 | 15 |
| 2011 | 4 | 19 | 52 | 98 | 71 | 44 | 8 | 23 | 12 |
| 2012 | 7 | 29 | 63 | 95 | 76 | 45 | 15 | 13 | 5 |

Table 7c. The percentage of positive interviews by year and hours fished from the charterboat and private boat fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Data highlighted in gray were not included in the analyses.

| Year | Percent of Positive Interviews by HRS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9+ |
| 1981 | 2.13 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.54 | 1.24 | 1.14 | 2.67 | 0.00 | 6.99 |
| 1982 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.38 | 0.61 | 1.23 | 0.30 | 1.69 | 4.70 | 6.58 |
| 1983 | 6.98 | 0.00 | 1.11 | 3.33 | 0.89 | 4.92 | 1.92 | 3.70 | 7.14 |
| 1984 | 0.00 | 0.58 | 1.50 | 1.38 | 1.01 | 2.23 | 1.57 | 0.00 | 2.70 |
| 1985 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2.46 | 1.15 | 0.00 | 6.48 |
| 1986 | 1.75 | 2.33 | 2.89 | 3.45 | 3.34 | 5.64 | 1.92 | 6.17 | 8.15 |
| 1987 | 0.88 | 1.78 | 2.30 | 1.87 | 3.04 | 5.58 | 2.85 | 9.40 | 9.49 |
| 1988 | 0.32 | 0.36 | 1.17 | 2.34 | 2.71 | 2.81 | 1.73 | 6.07 | 7.43 |
| 1989 | 1.34 | 1.50 | 2.46 | 5.37 | 4.79 | 4.17 | 6.08 | 1.70 | 8.33 |
| 1990 | 0.00 | 0.34 | 0.46 | 1.51 | 1.32 | 1.42 | 1.10 | 1.69 | 2.22 |
| 1991 | 1.23 | 1.81 | 2.51 | 4.37 | 5.63 | 4.89 | 5.56 | 3.68 | 9.46 |
| 1992 | 2.80 | 3.79 | 4.76 | 4.55 | 4.34 | 6.98 | 3.15 | 3.63 | 2.99 |
| 1993 | 1.38 | 0.73 | 2.35 | 3.74 | 1.77 | 3.62 | 3.73 | 5.08 | 8.16 |
| 1994 | 0.33 | 2.04 | 1.90 | 2.35 | 1.41 | 3.03 | 1.65 | 2.18 | 2.65 |
| 1995 | 0.00 | 0.23 | 1.74 | 1.17 | 0.55 | 1.04 | 1.15 | 1.36 | 3.05 |
| 1996 | 0.36 | 0.76 | 1.46 | 1.43 | 1.53 | 0.70 | 0.71 | 4.37 | 0.82 |
| 1997 | 0.86 | 0.83 | 1.08 | 0.56 | 1.91 | 1.74 | 1.27 | 0.78 | 0.84 |
| 1998 | 1.46 | 0.82 | 1.57 | 2.10 | 2.40 | 1.05 | 1.32 | 3.16 | 2.22 |
| 1999 | 0.69 | 1.30 | 1.58 | 2.70 | 2.83 | 3.60 | 2.53 | 1.98 | 3.95 |
| 2000 | 2.81 | 2.21 | 2.63 | 4.82 | 4.29 | 4.55 | 3.54 | 5.29 | 12.77 |
| 2001 | 1.33 | 3.88 | 3.30 | 3.99 | 4.13 | 4.49 | 2.59 | 3.82 | 11.83 |
| 2002 | 2.74 | 4.69 | 5.86 | 7.13 | 6.82 | 5.75 | 4.14 | 6.64 | 7.69 |
| 2003 | 3.86 | 4.53 | 4.42 | 7.55 | 6.75 | 8.48 | 4.34 | 5.43 | 10.39 |
| 2004 | 0.27 | 2.74 | 3.81 | 5.94 | 5.56 | 5.31 | 4.59 | 6.28 | 4.61 |
| 2005 | 1.70 | 1.72 | 2.30 | 4.25 | 4.31 | 4.76 | 2.61 | 5.98 | 3.14 |
| 2006 | 1.07 | 1.80 | 2.40 | 3.05 | 4.01 | 3.68 | 3.76 | 4.69 | 7.33 |
| 2007 | 1.12 | 3.62 | 2.85 | 3.10 | 3.08 | 3.43 | 1.89 | 7.81 | 5.80 |
| 2008 | 1.33 | 3.09 | 3.51 | 2.97 | 4.49 | 3.05 | 5.37 | 5.96 | 14.78 |
| 2009 | 1.52 | 3.09 | 3.47 | 3.60 | 2.97 | 4.50 | 2.67 | 11.06 | 14.75 |
| 2010 | 4.02 | 4.91 | 5.97 | 5.14 | 4.48 | 6.19 | 6.42 | 9.77 | 22.06 |
| 2011 | 1.82 | 3.24 | 4.52 | 6.34 | 6.63 | 5.65 | 2.68 | 11.50 | 14.46 |
| 2012 | 2.52 | 4.86 | 5.61 | 6.45 | 8.76 | 6.40 | 7.43 | 12.15 | 6.85 |

